

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A method for splicing together overlapping ends of first and second lengths of photographic film strips of common film strip width, comprising positioning a bonding element between an overlapping end of the first length of photographic film and a corresponding overlapped end of the second length of photographic film, and heating the bonding element to effect an adhesive bond between such film ends, wherein the bonding element comprises an induction heating receptive support and thermoplastic adhesive layers on each side of the support, and wherein the heating of the bonding element is performed by induction heating.
2. A method according to claim 1, wherein the first and second lengths of photographic film strips are motion picture film strips of width from 8 to 70 mm, the film strips contain imaged scene frames, the bonding element is from 0.5 to 3 mm in width and from 8 to 70 mm in length and less than or equal to about 200  $\mu\text{m}$  thick, and the bonding element is positioned lengthwise across the film strip width in an area between the imaged scene frame areas.
3. A method according to claim 2, wherein the bonding element has a thickness of from about 5  $\mu\text{m}$  to about 100  $\mu\text{m}$ .
4. A method according to claim 2, wherein the bonding element has a thickness of from about 5  $\mu\text{m}$  to about 50  $\mu\text{m}$ .
5. A method according to claim 2, wherein the bonding element has a thickness of from about 5  $\mu\text{m}$  to about 30  $\mu\text{m}$ .
6. A method according to claim 2, wherein the bonding element comprises a metal foil support having a thickness of from about 5  $\mu\text{m}$  to about 100

μm and thermoplastic adhesive layers of from about 1 to about 10 μm coated on each side of the support.

7. A method according to claim 6, wherein the metal foil has a thickness of from about 10 μm to about 50 μm.

8. A method according to claim 6, wherein the bonding element comprises a metal foil support having a thickness of from about 10 μm to about 25 μm and thermoplastic adhesive layers of from about 1 to about 5 μm coated on each side of the support.

9. A method according to claim 2, wherein the bonding element comprises a metal foil support having a thickness of from about 5 μm to about 100 μm and pre-formed adhesive films which are laminated to both sides of the metal foil.

10. A method according to claim 9, wherein the pre-formed adhesive films comprise self-supported adhesive films of less than or equal to about 50 μm in thickness having a thermal activation temperature of greater than 75°C, an ultimate elongation of less than 400%, and a 2% secant modulus of less than 120 N/mm<sup>2</sup>.

11. A method according to claim 9, wherein the pre-formed adhesive films comprise self-supported adhesive films of less than or equal to about 25 μm in thickness having a thermal activation temperature of greater than 75°C, an ultimate elongation of less than 400%, and a 2% secant modulus of less than 120 N/mm<sup>2</sup>.

12. A method according to claim 2, wherein the metal foil comprises aluminum foil.

13. A method according to claim 2, wherein the induction heating receptive support of the bonding element comprises a polymeric film support with layers of electrically conductive or magnetic metal vacuum-deposited on both surfaces of the polymeric film.

14. A method according to claim 13, wherein the polymeric support comprises polyethylene terephthalate having a thickness of from about 5  $\mu\text{m}$  to about 50  $\mu\text{m}$  and each vacuum-deposited metal layer has a thickness of from about 1000 to about 8000 Angstroms.

15. A method according to claim 14, wherein the polymeric support has a thickness of from about 6  $\mu\text{m}$  to about 20  $\mu\text{m}$  and each vacuum-deposited metal layer has a thickness of from about 4000 to about 6000 Angstroms.

16. A method according to claim 13, wherein the metal layers comprise silver.

17. A method according to claim 2, wherein the first and second lengths of photographic film strips each independently comprises an acetate based film strip or a polyester based film strip.

18. A method according to claim 2, wherein one of the first and second lengths of photographic film strips comprises an acetate based film strip and the other of the first and second lengths of photographic film strips comprises a polyester based film strip.

19. A method according to claim 2, wherein the peel strength of the resulting prepared splice exceeds 1.0 kg/35mm width and the tensile strength of the resulting prepared splice exceeds 18 kg/35mm width.